(b) the time frame within which the Committee has been asked to give its report;

(c) whether the report has been submitted to Government; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government on the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d)Yes, Sir. An Expert Group was constituted in April, 99 to explore the possibility of revival of nine sick PSUs. These are Mining & Allied Machinery Corporation Ltd. (MAMC), Bharat Opthalmic Glass Ltd. (BOGL), Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Ltd. (TAFCO), Weighbird India Ltd. (WIL), Bharat Process & Mechanical Engineers Ltd. (BPMEL), National Instruments Ltd. (NIL), National Bicycle Corporation of India Ltd. (NBCIL), Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Ltd. (RIC) and Tangra Unit of Tyre Corporation of India Ltd. (TCIL). The Expert Group has submitted its report. Government is to take a decision on these recommendations and communicate these to BIFR/High Court as the case may be. The revival plan of NIL has been sanctioned by BIFR.

Placing of wagon order with sick PSUs

350. SHRI KHAGEN DAS:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item "Joshi requests Mamata to place sixty per cent of wagon order with sick PSUs" which appeared in Financial Express, dated 20.1.2000.

(b) if so, the response of the Railway Ministry to the request;

(c) the minimum number of wagons reqired to be ordered on Braithwaite, Burn Standard and Jessop units to sustain the revival of these units;

(d) the impact of the pricing as per the lowest tender on these PSUs; and

(e) the action plan of Government to resolve the issue in consultation with Railways?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry had

forwarded a proposal on 17.11.1999 to the Ministry of Railways for grant of 60% of wagon orders or a minimum 11000 Four Wheeler Units (FWUs), whichever is more, on the wagon manufacturing public sector undertakings of the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises.

(b) The response of Ministry of Railways on the proposal is still awaited.

(c) As per BIFR revival schemes, the minimum number of wagon orders required by Braithwaite, Burn Standard & Jessop during 2000-2001 are 8937.5 FWUs.

(d) The reduction in Gross Margin due to reduction in Tender wagon prices 2000-2001 compared to the BE 2000-2001 performance targets will be of the order of Rs. 15.68 crores in respect of BSCL, BWT and Jessop.

(e) This Ministry is continuously taking up this issue with the Railways.

Enquiry against Former CMD of CCI

†351. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK:
PROF. RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Members of Parliament had submitted a memorandum to Government for taking proper action against former Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Cement Corporation of India by making an enquiry with regard to financial irregularities and other matters at large scale committed by him;

(b) whether Government have taken any action in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and actual position in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (d) Several complaints regarding irregularities allegedly committed by the then CMD, CCI were received by the Government and were examined. Disciplinary proceedings were initiated against the incumbent in November, 1997 but the Departmental Inquiry proceeding were quashed by a Single Judge Bench of Delhi High Court. An Appeal filed by the Government against this Order has been admitted by the Division Bench and the matter is now sub-judice.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.